



November 7, 2005

Office of General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
999 E. Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20463

RE: MUR # 5682

FEC General Counsel:

I am in receipt of the complaint filed against myself, EdWatch, and the Bachmann for Congress Campaign.

The facts of the case are the following: EdWatch, Inc. at no time provided a letter of endorsement to the Bachmann campaign. The Bachmann campaign requested a personal letter of reference from me, someone who knew Michele Bachmann well. I provided the Bachmann for Congress campaign a personal letter in her support, bearing my personal letterhead logo. I was in no way representing EdWatch in that letter. Rather, I was providing a testimony of Senator Bachmann's character, commitment, concerns that she and I shared, and our work in common over the years long before she was a candidate for any office. Any references to EdWatch in the letter were solely to establish my own background, experience and commitment.

After composing my letter, I requested help from a friend, a mom who also does volunteer work for EdWatch, asking that she review my letter for grammatical errors and misspellings, put it on my letterhead (which I provided to her separately), and forward it to the Bachmann campaign for them to use as they wished. In formatting the letter for me, my friend used an EdWatch letter format that was already on her computer as a framework, cutting and pasting my letter into that format, and removing the EdWatch letterhead logo. Unfortunately, she failed to note that the EdWatch footer was still embedded at the bottom of the page.

The Bachmann for Congress campaign added its disclaimer at the end of the letter to make clear to the readers that it was sent out by the campaign at the campaign's expense. I became aware of the unexpected footer information only upon receiving my own copy of the letter in the mail.

No expenditure by EdWatch or by me was involved in any writing, editing, reproduction, or mailing of the letter. EdWatch is a small, volunteer organization composed almost entirely of parents concerned with the education of their children and grandchildren. The Bachmann campaign purchased our very limited statewide mailing list for a one-time use. The number of households on that list that were actually within the 6th Congressional District was well below 50. We have no specific number of 6th District residents, because the EdWatch mailing list is not organized by Congressional District boundaries.

RECEIVED
FEDERAL ELECTION
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF GENERAL
COUNSEL

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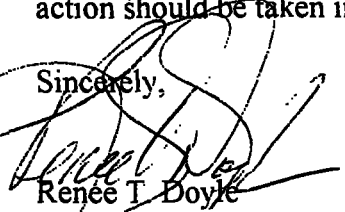
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In summary, I provided a draft letter of personal support to the Bachmann for Congress campaign representing myself, not Edwatch. All parties agreed that it was to be a personal letter, not a letter representing EdWatch. The Bachmann campaign purchased a limited number of addresses from EdWatch for a one-time mailing use.

I believe that no violation of the FEC Act occurred by me or by EdWatch, and that no FEC action should be taken in response to this complaint.

Sincerely,


Renée T. Doyle

Amboy, MN 56010

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